

What is claimed is:

1. A processing device, comprising:

an input interface for receiving data units containing header information of respective  
5 packets;

a first module configurable to perform packet filtering based on the received data  
units;

a second module configurable to perform traffic analysis based on the received data  
units;

a third module configurable to perform load balancing based on the received data  
10 units;

a fourth module configurable to perform route lookups based on the received data  
units.

2. The processing device of claim 1, wherein the processing device is implemented  
as an Application Specification Integrated Circuit.

3. The processing device of claim 1, wherein the traffic analysis performed by the  
second module includes at least one of sampling, logging, and counting.

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